

## FEED THE FUTURE IN AFRICA: FY2014 PROGRESS

Feed the Future, the U.S. Government's global hunger and food security initiative, and other U.S. Government efforts are contributing to significant progress against hunger and poverty in Africa.

Founded on President Obama's call on global leaders at the 2009 G-8 L'Aquila Summit to prioritize agricultural development as the key to reducing hunger, poverty and malnutrition, Feed the Future is creating opportunities for smallholder farmers, who are the backbone of rural economies, to improve yields and access to markets in 19 focus countries, 12 of which are in Africa. These efforts include support for innovative and climate-smart agricultural approaches to confront ongoing and future challenges, and are helping communities become more resilient and better able to respond to emergencies.



### Approach

Feed the Future was inspired by the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP), which since 2003 has been built around a common vision to increase economic growth and participation in global markets through agriculture-led development. In support of the food security priorities of host country governments around the world, Feed the Future builds on resources allocated during the George W. Bush Administration to boost agricultural productivity in Africa and is the primary vehicle through which the U.S. Government supports the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition. A shared commitment among African leaders, donors, and other development partners, the New Alliance is deepening inclusive, sustainable private sector engagement in agriculture to lift millions out of poverty.

### Achieving Impact

Along with other major U.S. Government food security efforts, Feed the Future is supporting local capacity to increase food security, agricultural productivity, and good nutrition. In FY2014 alone, Feed the Future investments in Africa:

- Helped **nearly 2.5 million** African farmers use improved technologies and management practices;
- Spurred **over \$306 million** in new sales on the continent;
- Brought small-scale entrepreneurs increased income opportunities through **nearly \$600 million** in new agricultural and rural loans; and
- Reached **nearly 9 million** children under 5 through nutrition programs.

### Did You Know?

- **80 percent** of all farms in Africa are smallholder-owned.
- **More than two-thirds** of Africans depend directly on agriculture for their incomes.
- While **more than one-quarter** of the world's arable land is on the African continent, African agriculture accounts for only 10 percent of global agricultural output, a shortfall attributed in large part to low use of modern agricultural **tools, practices and technologies**.

New data suggest that Feed the Future and other U.S. Government efforts are also contributing to substantial reductions in both poverty and childhood stunting, which can rob children of their ability to grow and thrive:

- In **Ethiopia**, there was a **9% reduction in stunting** nationally between 2011 and 2014.
- **Ghana** experienced a **33% decline in stunting** nationally between 2008 and 2014.
- **Kenya** saw a more than **25% reduction in stunting** in the areas of the former Eastern and Nyanza provinces, where Feed the Future programs have been concentrated, from 2009 to 2014.
- In **Uganda**, data show a **16% decrease in poverty** in rural areas, including where Feed the Future works, between 2009-2010 and 2012-2013. National poverty levels also declined from 24.5% in 2009-2010 to 19.7% in 2012-2013.



*Aziza Ismail Waziri tends to her home garden with the help of her children in the village of Kauzeni, located just outside of Morogoro, Tanzania. Home gardens like this one give rural and vulnerable households a chance to tackle malnutrition by introducing families to highly nutritious vegetables. Credit: USAID/Tanzania*

With continued effort, these results should help ensure that more and more individual smallholder farmers will continue to contribute to – and benefit from – participation in the global economy.

## Looking Forward

In 2014, African leaders reaffirmed their commitments to agricultural development with the Malabo Declaration, which builds on the CAADP principles of agriculture-led growth, regional cooperation, evidence-based planning and policy, partnership, and expanded African financial commitments. The Declaration also sets out an ambitious agenda for Africa's food security and nutrition for the next decade that is consistent with Feed the Future's goals.

## The New Alliance: A Shared Commitment to Agriculture-led Growth

Food security cannot be addressed sustainably with donor dollars alone. That's why, with public sector engagement clearly prioritized around food security, President Obama, African leaders and other development partners introduced the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in 2012 to deepen responsible private sector engagement in agriculture to help lift millions out of poverty in sub-Saharan Africa.

Since then, more than 200 companies around the world – two-thirds of them African – have committed to invest \$10.2 billion through the New Alliance to benefit 8.7 million smallholders through sourcing or services, with \$1.8 billion invested through 2014.

Feed the Future is the primary vehicle through which the U.S. Government contributes to the New Alliance.